

Remarks

Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12-16, and 19 are pending in this Application. Those Claims stand rejected. In view of the following remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's thoughtful reconsideration.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-15, and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being unpatentable over USPN 6,453,127 issued to Wood in view of USPN 6,496,279 issued to Kuroi.

Claim 1 is directed to a method of implementing collated printing depending on the collating capabilities of a printer represented by a destination service. As amended, Claim 1 recites the following acts:

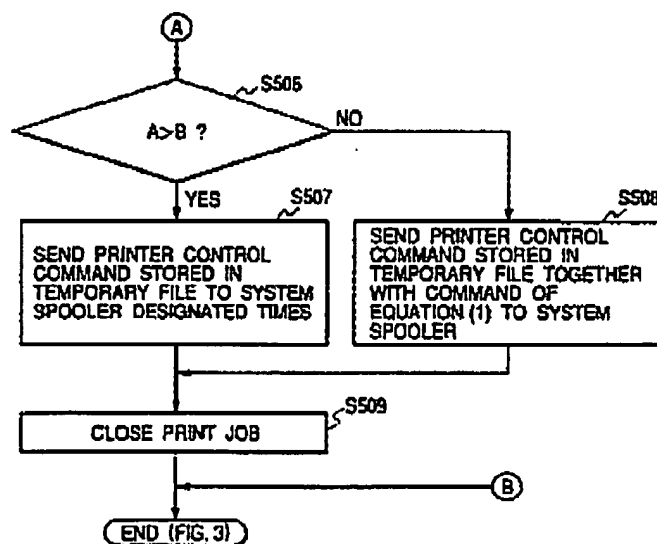
1. automatically determining by said destination service the collating capabilities of said printer;
2. downloading content from said destination service into a user's browser, the content to be executed by the browser to enable the user to select production options that include an option to print and collate more than one copy;
3. at the destination service, receiving from the browser a print option to print and collated more than one copy;
4. from the destination service, retrieving said user's image data; and
5. if said printer supports internal collating, then implementing processing of said user's retrieved image data using said printer in accordance with selected production options; otherwise
6. if said printer does not support internal collating, then printing a copy of said user's retrieved image data using said printer, then automatically retrieving and printing another copy using said printer, and iteratively retrieving and printing successive copies of said user's image data.

Rejecting Claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Wood teaches the second, third, and fourth elements listed above and that Kuroi teaches the first, fifth, and sixth. With respect to Kuroi, the Examiner makes the following statement.

Kuroi discloses automatically determining the collating capabilities of a printer (S506 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 33-39); if said printer supports internal collating, then implementing a processing of said user's retrieved image data using said printer in accordance with selected production options (S508 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 40-45); otherwise if said printer does not support internal collating, then printing a copy of said user's retrieved image data using said printer, then automatically retrieving and printing another copy using said printer, and iteratively retrieving and printing successive copies of said user's image data (S507 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 33-39)

The Examiner's reliance on Kuroi is misplaced. To illustrate the Examiner misunderstanding, the cited passages and figure from Kuroi are reproduced as follows.

FIG. 6



The printer driver 25 compares the total data size (A) of the printer control commands acquired in the step S504 with the maximum data memory capacity (B) acquired in the step S505 (step S506), and, if (A) is larger, outputs the printer control commands, temporarily stored in the temporary file, to the system spooler in repetition by a predetermined number of times (step S507).

On the other hand, if (B) is judged larger, the printer driver 25 outputs the printer control commands stored in the temporarily file after adding a printer control command, indicated in the foregoing (1) to the head and adding a character train indicating the end of the print data at the end (step S508). Then the printer driver 25 closes the print job newly opened in the step S503 (step S509) and terminates the process (steps S503-S509) in case the multiple-copy mode is designated.

Kuroi, col. 7, lines 33-48. To summarize, Kuroi teaches a printer driver (25) that can determine the maximum memory size (B) of a data file that can be stored in a printer's memory. See Kuroi, Fig. 5, step S505. The driver (25) also identifies the memory size (A) of a temporary file representing multiple copies of a document. See Kuroi, Fig. 5, step S504. If the Driver determines that (A) is larger than (B), the driver (25) repetitively sends a print job to a spooler where that print job represents a single copy of the document. Kuroi, col. 7, lines 33-39. In other words, the driver (25) sends multiple print jobs to the spooler – one for each of the copies. If the Driver determines that (A) is not larger than (B), then the driver (25) sends one large print job to the spooler – the one large print job representing all of the copies.

Kuroi's driver (25) does not automatically determine the collating capabilities of said printer. Kuroi's driver (25) has multi-copy capabilities – Kuroi's printer does not. Kuroi's driver (25) simply determines whether it will send the printer one large print job representing multiple copies or a succession of smaller print jobs each representing a single copy. Kuroi's driver (25) makes this determination based on the available internal memory of the printer.

Furthermore, under Kuroi's teachings, never is only a single print job representing a single copy of a document sent to a printer. Either multiple print jobs are sent or one large print job representing multiple copies are sent. In other words, Kuroi's printer does not support internal collating. All multi-copy functionality is provided by Kuroi's driver (25). Consequently, Kuroi also fails to teach or suggest implementing processing of a user's retrieved image data using a printer in accordance with selected production options if the printer supports internal collating as recited by the fifth limitation listed above.

For at least these reasons Claim 1 is patentable over Wood and Kuroi as are Claims 2-5 due at least in part to their dependence from Claim 1.

Claim 7 is directed to a destination service capable of implementing the method of Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so are Claim 7 and Claims 8-10 and 12 which depend from Claim 7.

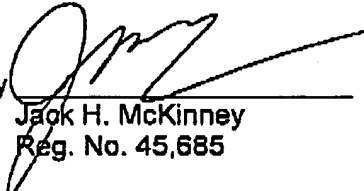
Claim 13 is directed to a system for implementing the method of Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so are Claim 13 and Claims 14-16, 18, and 19 which depend from Claim 13.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12-16, 18, and 19 define allowable subject matter. The Examiner is requested to indicate the allowability of all claims in the application and to pass the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
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